

REMARKS***Status of the Application***

Claims 1 through 32 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 and 103 as allegedly being unpatentable over Great Britain Patent Application 2,293,502A (hereinafter "Kozel et al.") and U.S. Patent 5,702,255 (Murphy et al.).

Applicants propose canceling claims 1 through 32 and adding claims 33 through 35. In view of the above amendments and following remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application.

Information Disclosure Statement

Applicant previously submitted an Information Disclosure Statement and Form 1449 on September 5, 2001. A signed copy of the Form 1449 has not been received. Applicant's undersigned attorney respectfully requests that the Examiner return a signed copy of the Form 1449 with the next communication.

The Prior Art Rejections

Applicant's undersigned attorney respectfully submits that newly added claims 33 through 35 patentably define over the cited references.

Claim 33 is directed to "an electrical connector assembly comprising:

a first connector half, said first connector half having first and second surfaces, **said first surface having an array of reflowable connecting elements thereon for electrical and mechanical connection to mating corresponding elements on said substrate**, said second surface having an array of frictional connecting elements, said reflowable connecting elements connected to said frictional connecting elements; and

a second connector half, said second connector half having first and second surfaces, **said first surface having an array of connecting elements thereon for electrical and mechanical connection to reflowable mating elements on said component**, said second surface having an array of frictional connecting elements, said reflowable connecting elements connected to said frictional connecting elements;

wherein mating said frictional contacting elements of said first and second connector halves electrically connects

said component to said substrate, **said first and second frictional contacting elements constructed such that when mated there can still be at least some relative movement between the two along at least two axes to allow for CTE to be absorbed between said component and said substrate.**"

Applicant's undersigned attorney submits that the cited references do not teach this claimed combination of elements.

Kozel discloses a miniature grid array socketing system. Specifically, Kozel teaches inserting adaptor 50 into socket housing 11. The socket housing 11 has lead tails 26 extending therefrom which are soldered to solder pads located on the surface of printed circuit board 30. (Kozel, p. 9, ll. 3-18.) Thus, in contradistinction to the claimed invention which requires a first connector half "**having an array of reflowable connecting elements thereon for electrical and mechanical connection to mating corresponding elements on said substrate,**" Kozel teaches a first connector half (housing 11) that has lead tails 26 for connection to substrate 30. Kozel does not teach reflowable connecting elements as required by the claims. Indeed, by teaching lead tails 26, Kozel actually teaches away

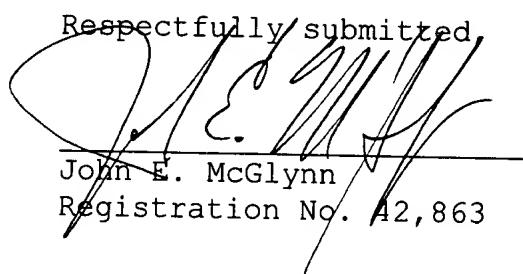
from the claimed invention. Furthermore, Kozel nowhere discusses or suggests "**said first and second frictional contacting elements constructed such that when mated there can still be at least some relative movement between the two along at least two axes to allow for CTE to be absorbed between said component and said substrate.**"

Murphy likewise entirely fails to teach or even suggest the claimed combination of elements. Murphy teaches a single socket body 24 with ball contacts 20 disposed on opposite sides. In contradistinction to the claimed invention, Murphy nowhere teaches or even suggests a first connector half and a second connector half, **said first connector half "having an array of reflowable connecting elements thereon for electrical and mechanical connection to mating corresponding elements on said substrate."** Indeed, Murphy does not even teach two connector halves. Furthermore, Murphy nowhere discusses or suggests "**said first and second frictional contacting elements constructed such that when mated there can still be at least some relative movement between the two along at least two axes to allow for CTE to be absorbed between said component and said substrate.**"

Therefore, because they entirely fail to teach claimed elements of the invention, Kozel and Murphy do not anticipate or render obvious the claimed invention. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the prior art rejection.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submit that claims 33 through 35 patentably define over the prior art of record. Reconsideration of the present Office Action and a Notice of Allowance are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121, below is a copy of claims 33 through 35.

33. (New) An electrical connector assembly adapted for forming a mechanical and an electrical connection between a component and a substrate and absorbing CTE between said component and said substrate, said connector assembly comprising:

a first connector half, said first connector half having first and second surfaces, said first surface having an array of reflowable connecting elements thereon for electrical and mechanical connection to mating corresponding elements on said substrate, said second surface having an array of frictional connecting elements, said reflowable connecting elements connected to said frictional connecting elements; and

a second connector half, said second connector half having first and second surfaces, said first surface having an array of connecting elements thereon for electrical and mechanical connection to reflowable mating elements on said component, said second surface having an array of frictional

connecting elements, said reflowable connecting elements connected to said frictional connecting elements;

wherein mating said frictional contacting elements of said first and second connector halves electrically connects said component to said substrate, said first and second frictional contacting elements constructed such that when mated there can still be at least some relative movement between the two along at least two axes to allow for CTE to be absorbed between said component and said substrate.

34. (New) The connector assembly according to claim 33, wherein said relative movement be said two frictional contacting elements is along three axes.

35. (New) The connector assembly according to claim 34, wherein said relative movement is micro-motion.